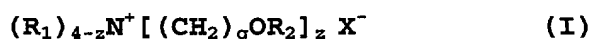


What Is Claimed Is:

1. A compound selected from the group of compounds represented by the formula

5



wherein each R_1 is independently selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alicyclic, aryl, alkalicyclic, alkaryl, alicyclicalkyl, aralkyl, aralicyclic, and alicyclicaryl moieties that can contain one or more heteroatoms; each R_2 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and the moieties described above for R_1 ; z is an integer of 1 to 4; q is an integer of 1 to 4; and X^- is a weakly coordinating fluoroorganic anion selected from the group consisting of bis(perfluoroalkanesulfonyl)imides and tris(perfluoroalkanesulfonyl)methides.